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point that needs immediate attention by our government. Accidents in the mines are altogether too common.

A good map accompanies the work. It is a valuable reference book.

The American Girl in the Stockyards District. By Louise Montgomery. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1913. 8vo, pp. vi+70. \$0.25.

This study of the position of the American-born girl in the stockyards district forms one of a series of investigations into the life of that community which the University of Chicago Settlement is carrying on. It is an interesting exposition of the actual industrial career of five hundred girls in that district, their preparation for industrial life, their failure or success in adjusting themselves to it, and the writer's conclusions as to the probable results of, and remedies for, present conditions. Besides industrial questions there are those further problems of immigrant communities where the American-born children are adjusting themselves to their environment in ways not followed or understood by their parents.

Miss Montgomery's findings as to the inadequacy of public-school preparation for an industrial career is simply the confirmation of a familiar claim. As in most communities, the people's standards of education are limited by the legal requirements, especially in the case of the girl who is expected to add to the family income as soon as the law allows. The natural consequence is a great number of fourteen-year-old girls seeking work in any position which can be filled by untrained and immature workers and for very low wages. The comparison of those who had stayed in school to finish the eighth grade with others who had dropped out immediately upon reaching their fourteenth year showed that the former had some advantage, since they began with a higher average wage and attained to positions regarded as superior by the people of the district. It would seem that the years from fourteen to sixteen spent in industry do not increase efficiency or earning power, while if spent in school they tend to increase both, and would do so much more if an adequate program of vocational guidance were adopted. But really to help these girls Miss Montgomery believes that the law should require them to stay in school up to the sixteenth year, and that especially the question of their amusements and problems of family adjustment must be given careful consideration. Though much of the work open to them even under such circumstances would still be the routine and drudgery of industry there would be more intelligent choice of occupation and a better social life.

Die Entwicklung der Landwirtschaft in den Vereinigten Staaten von Nordamerika. By Max Augstin. Munich and Leipzig: Duncker u. Humblot, 1914. 8vo. pp. 149. M. 4.

This little book is the result of special studies and a trip to the United States undertaken by the author in 1911. In it Dr. Augstin has been very successful

in proving his contention, stated in the preface, that it is not only the natural fertility of the soil which determines the limits of productivity of any land, but also the disciplined human mind and the organization of labor.

Primarily this book was written to compare the development of agriculture in the United States with that of Germany and to draw conclusions therefrom. The writer not only offers valuable information and advice to his own country, but also states a number of significant criticisms which it would be wise for us to heed.

Dr. Augstin sees undesirable conditions in the class of immigrants which now flock to our shores. At present, the people of Eastern and Southern Europe who remain in the industrial centers of our country and who are politically unripe to make desirable citizens in a free democracy do not take up agriculture and animal industry. Then, too, there is the great problem, the negro population. Chap. i, sec. 7, points out the absence of rural credit organizations. Another problem which is intelligently discussed is that arising from the absence of hail and weather insurance and the insufficient insurance of cattle, hogs, etc. On the other hand, the author gives much credit to the fruit-and vegetable-growers' exchanges. Particularly, grain-elevator organizations receive nothing but praise. Dr. Augstin also recognizes the valuable services rendered by the federal Department of Agriculture, employing some eleven thousand persons, most of whom possess adequate scientific training. The chapter on transportation contains good material, well worth special attention.

The book is readably written in a scientific manner, and above all, without bias. Special features worth mentioning are the concise summaries at the end of every chapter.

Geschichte und Theorie des Kapitalismus. By Dr. Fritz Gerlich. Munich and Leipzig: Duncker u. Humblot, 1913. Pp. viii+406. M. 10.

The bulk of the book is devoted to the industrial and commercial history of Europe. Only about thirty pages at the end are given to theoretical discussions.

The chief aim of the writer seems to be to prove that it is erroneous to speak of capitalism as the phenomenon of a new era that began some time in the eighteenth century. To Dr. Gerlich, capitalism is but an organic construction of the economic activities of past ages. Moreover, in his opinion, not only is commerce as old as civilization, but his historical data prove, as he believes, that we have advanced little in methods and general principles over our Babylonian ancestors. Whatever changes there may be found in technique, according to the author, are merely changes in method, a growing process of applying a developing science to industry; the motive of private gain and the aim of adaptation to the economic needs of the community, remain the same all through the ages.